



Faro Convention Action Plan

All political conventions can be seen in part simply as agreements of shared intent between the governments that sign and ratify them, but it is the action that follows that gives life and shape and meaning to the words.

Heritage and Beyond

“Peoples, Places and Stories”

The Council of Europe, with its integrated and cross-disciplinary approach to cultural heritage and diversity, encourages societies to assert the principle of every person’s right of access to the cultural heritage of his or her choice, while respecting the rights and freedoms of others.

The [Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society](#) (the Faro Convention) has been ratified by 17 member states and signed by 6 additional states. The Faro Convention Action Plan focuses on the main ingredients of commons, narratives and cooperation, considering heritage as a social, economic and political resource. It works with the local dynamics and pace, in line with the Faro Convention spirit, and the principles of social inclusion, human rights and community well-being.



An innovative Convention ...

Ongoing efforts towards sustainable development, shared prosperity, peaceful, just and inclusive societies, require sound and innovative perspectives on human rights and democratic governance. With the consideration of heritage as a social, economic and political resource, the Council of Europe’s Faro Convention suggests a vision and a new way of looking at heritage by setting the ground to reframe relations between all involved stakeholders, highlighting the essential role of inhabitants and as suggested by the Convention, heritage communities.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

... for the people

Heritage communities are self-organised, self-managed groups of individuals who are interested in progressive social transformation of relationships between peoples, places and stories, with an inclusive approach based on an enhanced definition of heritage.

The Faro Convention Network (FCN) operates on the principle of self-management where heritage communities are able to self-assess, monitor and evaluate their position against the Faro Convention principles and criteria. Interconnection of this network is also strengthened through a series of actions, developing solidarity and allowing mutual exchange among its members. This approach acknowledges and values the existing wisdom, knowledge and capacities in each heritage community. Consequently, it supports the internal dynamics of sustainable development processes with real consideration for human rights and democracy.



... with a Council of Europe approach

[Faro Convention Promotion](#)

Promotion of the Faro Convention is taking place at community, national and international levels through **Faro Convention Talks, Faro Convention Meetings** and **Faro Convention Labs**.

[Faro Convention in Action](#)

The Faro Convention in Action is an active learning platform where the Faro Convention Network builds on its good practices, and generates dynamic dialogue among practitioners, facilitators and heritage stakeholders. Through ongoing action-process-reflection, the FCN seeks to identify the changing needs of the societies and build on the pan-European know-how in order to address challenges at local, national and international levels.

[Faro Convention Spotlights](#)

Faro Convention Spotlights focus on specific heritage-led actions in line with the political priorities of the Organisation. These actions actively investigate the possible role of heritage in addressing societal challenges. Every year, the Secretariat identifies specific areas and practices in order to analyse and make subsequent recommendations to promote these actions in the member States.

[Faro Convention Research](#)

The Faro Convention is open to interpretation, as its guiding principles encourage periodic review of set criteria as the Faro Convention Network expands. The [Faro Convention Network \(FCN\)](#) identifies a specific issue every year and uses it as an occasion to organise a research study and visibility event in order to draw attention to the use of the Faro Convention approach and role of heritage in addressing these challenges. Participants from different academic circles and interested civil society organisations analyse the situation in the selected area from various Faro Convention related angles in line with the European Cultural Heritage Strategy for the 21st century (territorial / economic development, knowledge / education, social development) and make recommendations for community based actions.



More information :



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www.coe.int/faro-action-plan



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